

COMMUNITY HEALTH ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH TECHNICIAN

DEFINITION: Under general supervision, performs work of moderate difficulty in assisting a study team conducting a study to determine if uranium exposure affects birth outcomes and child development on the Navajo Nation; conducts outreach activities to raise awareness of potential health impacts resulting from exposure to uranium; recruits pregnant women to participate in study; maintains data utilizing approved data management and software systems; assists in the implementation of privacy and data security procedures; performs related duties as assigned.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS: This list is ILLUSTRATIVE ONLY and is not a comprehensive listing of all functions and tasks performed by incumbents of this class.

TASKS:

Conducts outreach and recruitment activities of the Navajo Birth Cohort Study such as community forums, presentations and health fairs to communities, chapters and health care providers to discuss and raise awareness of potential health impact resulting from exposure to uranium; provides health education, outreach and training to pregnant women and community members; assists in the implementation of privacy and data security procedures; participates in survey administration and research methodology; prepares reports or presents data in formats such as abstracts, bibliographies or graphs to supervisor; provides input on sustainability of project.

Actively recruits and enrolls eligible Navajo mothers to participate in research project; conducts interviews with clients to obtain data, may tape record information; assists with data collection; records participant's responses to questionnaires; schedules follow up appointments and home visits to ensure that Navajo mothers are meeting prenatal goals; facilitates environmental sampling efforts during home visits; stores and maintains records of specimen collections; logs, charts and records data; enters and maintains data utilizing a Center for Disease Control (CDC) and Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) approved data management and software system.

Conducts training to educate Navajo women about the importance of prenatal care utilization and the potential health concerns associated with uranium exposure; provides training sessions to clients on study; interacts with enrolled study participants to increase participation rates; works with community health workers and other partners of the Navajo Birth Cohort study; serves as an integrated regional team member; correlates group discussions to acquire information relevant to the study; attends meetings, training, conference and other job related in-services to ensure compliance with contract, scope of work and objectives of project.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND OTHER CHARACTERISTICS:

Knowledge of the principles and practices of providing health education services.

Knowledge of available health and public resources in the community.

Knowledge of the principles and practices of counseling.

Knowledge of applicable privacy and security rules and regulations; confidentiality of records, files and personal information.

Knowledge of applicable Navajo Nation rules and regulations of counseling services.

Knowledge of research methods or practices and conducting interviews.

Skill in expressing or exchanging ideas by means of verbal or written communication to impart information and to convey detailed instructions to participants or to the public.

Skill in interacting with clients.

Skill in providing counseling and care to clients.

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Skill in providing group presentations to the general public and clients.
Skill in the use of personal computers and databases to research, update and maintain records.
Skill in active listening to obtain accurate assessments of clients.
Skill in assessing the emotional needs of a client.
Skill in interacting with people from differing social, economic, cultural and emotional places in their lives.
Ability to follow study protocol with attention to detail and integrity of data.
Ability to communicate effectively in both English and Navajo languages.

PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS AND WORK ENVIRONMENT: Work involves moderate effort in traveling long distances throughout the Navajo Nation to provide health services.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

- A high school diploma or GED; and four (4) years of work experience in health care, public health education or providing patient care.

PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS:

- An Associate's degree in Public Health, Nursing or closely related health field.
- Two (2) years of experience working with community based health care.
- Training in Public Speaking, HIPPA or Human Research Protocols.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS:

- A favorable background investigation.
- Possess a valid state driver's license.

Supplemental Requirements:

Incumbent must obtain a valid Navajo Nation Vehicle Operator's Permit and certification in human research within 90 days of date of hire.

Depending upon the needs of the Nation, incumbents may be required to demonstrate fluency in both the Navajo and English languages as a condition of employment.